

IN THE SPECIFICATION AND THE DRAWINGS

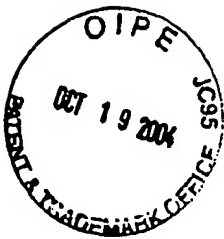
a) Responsive to the First Office Action's Paragraph 1 objection to the drawings, a new Fig. 13 accompanies Applicant's Response. Fig. 13 is a combination of as-filed Figs. 5 and 6 (the lateral views of the first and second sides of Applicant's invention.) As requested by the Examiner, the hollow 42 communicating with both stub axles (36 and 56) is now more clearly disclosed. Applicant asserts that no new matter has been added to the drawings.

b) In the pending Application and the Brief Description of the Drawings section thereof, on line 18 of Page 7, -- Fig. 13 is a combination of Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 that shows the first side of the present invention connected with the second side of the present invention. -- was added to the Specification.

c) Responsive to the First Office Action's Paragraph 1 objection to Page 8 line 21 and the words "(not shown)", line 21 of Page 21 has been amended to delete "(not shown)".

d) In the pending Application and the Description of the Preferred Embodiments section thereof, beginning on line 12 of Page 11, -- Fig. 13 is a combination of Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 that shows the first side of the present invention connected with the second side of the present invention. As shown, hollow (42) extends the width of spool (60) from stub axle (36) to stub axle (56). In the practice of the present invention, drive (40) engages driven gear (62) to cause spool (60) to rotate about stub axles (36 and 56). -- has been inserted into the Specification.

Amended Pages 7, 8, 9 and 11 of the Specification, new Fig. 13 and the pending Figs. 1-12 accompany Applicant's Response. In accordance with 37 C. F. R. §§ 1.118 and 1.125, Applicant further asserts the amended Specification contains no new matter.



(7)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 depicts a laid open view of the inside of the first side of the present invention.

Fig. 2 depicts a laid open view of the inside of the second side of the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a lateral view of the first side of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a view of the outward side of the first side of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a lateral view of the first side of the present invention from the opposite perspective than shown in Fig. 3

Fig. 6 is a lateral view of the second side of the present invention.

Fig. 7 is a view of the outward side of the second side of the present invention.

Fig. 8 is a schematic of the electric circuits of the present invention.

Fig. 9 is a pictorial representation of the present invention.

Fig. 10 is an illustration of the steps of an embodiment of the present method.

Fig. 11 is a depiction of the steps of another embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 12 is an exemplification of the steps of yet another embodiment of the current method.

Fig. 13 is a combination of Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 that shows the first side of the present invention connected with the second side of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Although the disclosure hereof is detailed to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention, the embodiments published herein merely exemplify the present invention.

Figs. 1 and 2 depict a laid open view of the inside of the first side (30) and the inside of the second side (50) of the motorized chalk line apparatus (20). First side (30) of housing (24) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20) has first receptacle (32) and second receptacle (34) for receiving the fasteners (shown in Figs. 6 and 7) that hold first side (30) and second side (50) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20) together. Those skilled in the art recognize that more than two fasteners can be used to hold first side (30) and second side (50) together. First side (30) includes opening (92A) and second side (50) includes opening (92B). When first side (30) and second side (50) are fastened together, among other things, aperture (92) of housing (24) is created.

First stub axle (36) extends inward from inward side (38) of first side (30). Drive (40) also extends inward from inward side (38). Second side (50) is provided with first receptacle (52) and second receptacle (54) for receiving fasteners (not shown), such as screws, to hold first side (30) and second side (50) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20) together. Second stub axle (56) extends inward from the inward side (58) of second side (50).

When first side (30) and second side (50) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20) are joined together, spool (60) and its corresponding driven gear (62) are mounted on first stub axle (36) and second stub axle (56) via a spool hollow. Wall (64A), inward side (38) of first side (30) and wall (64B), inward side (58) of second side (50) create spool chamber (66) and chalk reservoir (68). When first side (30) and second side (50) are joined together wall (64A) and

1 wall (64B) create wall (64) of spool chamber of spool chamber (66). Common opening (70)
2 joins spool chamber (66) and chalk reservoir (68) which allows the chalk line (90) (shown in
3 phantom) to unwind from spool (60). Contact switch (100) and slide (98) communicate with
4 housing (24), and slide (98) is fitted to expose or close first opening (96) through which chalk
5 can be added to chalk reservoir (68).

6 Fig. 3 is a lateral view of first side (30) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20). As
7 shown, motor (110) and battery (120) communicate with housing (24). Although not shown in
8 Fig. 3, contact switch (100), motor (110) and battery (120) are connected via the appropriate
9 circuitry. Shaft (114) extends from motor (110) through inward side (38) of first side (30) and
10 carries drive (40). As shown, drive (40) is a gear, but those skilled in the art recognize that
11 other types of drives can be utilized to practice the present invention. In this view, spool (60) is
12 coupled to stub axle (36).

13 In operation, spool (60) rotates about stub axles (36 and 56), when the chalk line is
14 pulled away from the spool or when drive (40) rotates driven gear (62) to cause the spool (60)
15 to reel in the chalk line. Chalk line (90) is wound about spool (60) and has a section extending
16 out of spool chamber (66) through common opening (70) of wall (64) into and through chalk
17 reservoir (68) and out of aperture (92) of housing (24). As best shown in Fig. 9, chalk line (90)
18 can be provided with stop (88) to prevent the tip of the chalk line from being wound about
19 spool (60). In other embodiments, the chalk line can also include an anchor (102) which allows
20 a single person to operate the present invention without the need of an assistant to hold the
21 remote end of the chalk line.

22 Fig. 4 is a view of the outward side of first side (30) of motorized chalk line apparatus
23 (20). Housing (24) can be composed of plastic or other material capable of being constructed to
24 accommodate motor (110) and battery (120). In select embodiments, the battery holder (122)

1 connects motor (110) to contact switch (100), and line (148) runs from contact switch (100) to
2 line (142). It has been determined that a nine volt battery and its corresponding motor provide
3 adequate power to rotate the spool to return the unwound chalk line. However, those skilled in
4 the art recognize that other combinations of direct current devices for powering the spool are
5 within the scope of the present invention.

6 Fig. 9 is a pictorial representation of the present invention. First side (30) and second
7 side (50) are joined together to create housing (24) of motorized chalk line apparatus (20).
8 Battery holder (122) for battery (120) and motor chamber (112) extend outwardly from first
9 side (30). Contact switch (100) is exposed for ease of operation and a portion of chalk line (90)
10 extends outwardly from aperture (92). In this specific embodiment, chalk line (90) includes
11 stop (88) and anchor (102).

12 Fig. 13 is a combination drawing of Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 that shows the first side of the
13 present invention connected with the second side of the present invention. As shown, hollow
14 (42) extends the width of spool (60) from stub axle (36) to stub axle (56). In the practice of the
15 present invention, drive (40) engages driven gear (62) to cause spool (60) to rotate about stub
16 axles (36 and 56).

17 Steps associated with the practice of the methods of present invention utilizing select
18 structural elements enabled above are set forth in Figs. 10-12. Having disclosed the invention
19 as required by Title 35 of the United States Code, Applicant now prays respectfully that Letters
20 Patent be granted for his invention in accordance with the scope of the claims appended hereto.